

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15 EURE-00
/054 W
-----121754Z 066485 /47

P R 121641Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1344
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
USMISSION NATO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

CONFIDENTIAL LISBON 3783

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, PO
SUBJ: PORTUGUESE REACT FAVORABLY TO LONDON SUMMIT

SUMMARY: ADVISER TO PRESIDENT EANES EXPRESSED PLEASURE WITH
NATO SUMMIT AND CARTER-EANES MEETING. PORTUGUESE
MEDIA GAVE EXTENSIVE AND LARGELY FAVORABLE COVERAGE TO SUMMIT
WITH FOCUS ON EANES-CARTER MEETING, EANES'S REMARKS UPON
RETURN, AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S POSITIVE ROLE IN THE SUMMIT.
END SUMMARY

1. EANES PLEASED: PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER LUIS MARTINS, WHO
ACCOMPANIED EANES TO LONDON, TOLD EMBOFF MAY 12 THAT THE
LONDON SUMMIT AND THE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER HAD
GONE VERY WELL. MARTINS SAID PRESIDENTS CARTER AND
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EANES GOT ALONG WELL PERSONALLY AND PRESIDENT
CARTER HAD DEMONSTRATED HIS FAMILIARITY WITH PORTUGUESE
PROBLEMS. MARTINS NOTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER REGRETTED
THAT HE COULD ONLY MEET BRIEFLY AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT
VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND EANES COULD TALK AT GREATER
LENGTH.

2. MEDIA ON CARTER-EANES: PORTUGUESE PRESS, RADIO, AND TELEVISION GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO THE PRESIDENTS' MEETING, WITH FOCUS ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S WISH TO MEET REGULARLY WITH EANES. PRESS SAID MEETING HAD CONCENTRATED ON BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AND US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL. SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS NOTED THAT THE MEETING WAS NOT SCHEDULED UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE DUE TO DIPLOMATIC QUESTIONS OVER THE MEETING SITE.

3. TRIUMPH FOR EANES: MEDIA GAVE MOST PROMINENT COVERAGE TO ROLE OF PRESIDENT EANES AT SUMMIT. "TEMPO" CALLED HIS PERFORMANCE IN LONDON A "SUCCESS FOR EANES." MEDIA REPORTED EANES'S MAY 11 STATEMENTS TO PRESS IN LONDON AND LISBON INCLUDING FOLLOWING:

-- ECONOMIC PROBLEMS RECOGNIZED" A CONCERN FOR EXTENDING THE ALLIANCE TO NON-MILITARY MATTERS WAS THE SUMMIT'S DOMINANT THEME. THE ALLIANCE RECOGNIZED THAT MILITARY SECURITY IS FUNDAMENTALLY A PROBLEM OF ECONOMIC SECURITY.

-- CONSULTATION" MUTUAL CONSULTATION, INCLUDING THE SMALLER COUNTRIES, WILL STRENGTHEN THE ALLIANCE.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS: PORTUGAL HAS THE MORAL FORCE TO STRUGGLE FOR UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS. A THAW IS NECESSARY TO CONVERT ARMS EXPENDITURES TO SOCIAL BENEFITS.

-- COMMITMENT TOWARD PORTUGAL: FOREIGN LEADERS DEMONSTRATED IN BILATERAL MEETINGS GREAT WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST IN CONFIDENTIAL

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SOLIDATING PORTUGAL'S ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL WILL ALLOW THE RESOLUTION OF BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS FOR THE NEXT FIFTEEN MONTHS, SUFFICIENT TIME TO NEGOTIATE THE SECOND PART OF THE LOAN.

4. FAVORABLE COMMENTARY: PRESS COMMENTARY ON NATO SUMMIT WAS LARGEMLY FAVORABLE, WITH STRESS ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S STRONG COMMITMENT TO NATO, THE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE, THE THEME OF UNITY WHICH DOMINATED THE SUMMIT, AND THE FACT THAT ALL NATO COUNTRIES ARE DEMOCRACIES FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE COMMUNIST AND LEFTIST PRESS FOUND FAULT WITH SMALL DETAILS OF THE SUMMIT, BUT ACCORDED THE SUMMIT AND EANES'S ROLE PROMINENT AND LARGEMLY STRAIGHFORWARD COVERAGE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUMMIT MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LISBON03783
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770167-1110
Format: TEL
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770566/aaaaceph.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3cdab695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2550846
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PORTUGUESE REACT FAVORABLY TO LONDON SUMMIT SUMMARY: ADVISER TO PRESIDENT EANES EXPRESSED PLEASURE WITH NATO SUMMIT AND CARTER-EANES MEETING. PORTUGUESE
TAGS: PFOR, PO, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3cdab695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009